PHILOSOPHICAL TRANSACTIONS.

December 13. 1669.

The Contents.

The Extracts of Two Letters, one written from Paris *concerning some Transactions there, relating to the* Transfusion of Blood; *the other, from* Plimouth, *giving an Accompt of the hindrance of opening the Big-breasted Woman after her death. An Appendix to the former Discourse of the* Salt-Work. *A Relation, touching the Quick-silver-Mines in* Friuli, *confirming and enlarging the Accompt formerly given of the same. A Narrative of an odd Lake in* Carniola. *An Accompt of some Books: I. MECHANICA, sive de MOTU Tractatus Geometricus, A.* Joh. Wallis *SS. Th. D.* &c. II. *NATH. HIGHMORI de Hysterica & Hypochondriaca Passione Responsio Epistolaris ad Doct.* Willis. III. *NOUVELLES EXPERIENCES sur la VIPERE, par M. CHARAS.* IV. *ATHANASII KIRCHERI ARS COMBINATORIA.* V. *THEODORI KERCKRINGII M. D. Spicilegium Anatomicum, nec non* Osteogenia *Fœtuum.*

A Letter

Written by an Intelligent and Worthy English Man from Paris, *to a Considerable Member of the* R. Society *in* London, *concerning some Transactions there, relating to the Experiment of the Transfusion of Blood.*

SIR,

YOu have such a Relation to the *Royal Society*, that I think my self obliged to impart unto you the Honourable mention, I heard of that Noble Institution in the *Grand Chambre*

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of the Parlement here, on Thurſday laſt, that Society being then publickly inſtanc'd in for the *Source of Noble Experiments*, and having the Precedency of thoſe in *Germany*, *Italy*, and other places of *Europe*; in that order, wherein the Orator thought fit to rank them.

The Occaſion of mentioning it was, That one Monſieur *Denys*, a Phyſitian, had been queſtion'd before the *Lieutenant Criminel* here for the Death of his Patient (a Man that had been ſtark Mad for ſeveral years) who had expired under his hands, while he was Transfuſing Blood into him, according to the New Experiment. The Operation had been twice perform'd with good ſucceſs; the Patient having had thereupon a good interval of two Moneths after the firſt, and all hopes of a longer after the ſecond, had it not been for the debauches in Wine and Brandy, that he fell to, ſoon after the Operation. He was a *Brittan* by birth, and the Original of his Madneſs, Love. That which Mr. *Denys*, his Advocate, very much gloried in, was, that (beſides that the Experiment had been practiſed with good, at leaſt with no ill, ſucceſs, in *England*, *Germany*, *Italy*, *Holland*, &c. and defended in *Theſes* in almoſt all the Univerſities of *France*) there were two perſons, a Man and a Woman, preſent in the Audience, that received a benefit to Admiration from the Experiment, after they had been abandon'd by all Phyſitians and other helps.

In Juſtifying the Introduction and Uſe of New Experiments he ſaid, That the *Moſt precious Life to this State* (viz That of his *Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty*) had been ſaved by the Adminiſtration of a lately invented *Emetique*.

This Advocat was the Son of Monſieur *le Premier Preſident de la Moignon*. The ſame was, not long ſince, in our Court, and is, I perceive, well known to it, and infinitely ſatisfied with the Civilities he had received from ſeveral perſons there. Though this was his firſt Action, yet his performance was a Maſter-piece, and he had an Audience ſutable; all Friends, I ſuppoſe, to his Family: among them were the Duke of *Enguyen*, the Dukes of *Luynes*, *Mortemar*, *Chaulne*, and a World of other Great Perſons, Men and Women.

The Pleading for the Widow Plaintiff will be on Thurſday next; but any odds would be laid on the Defendants ſide; though

ſome

ſome partial Men here are more than ſuſpected to ſet on the Widow. Pardon, Sir, this Interruption, and believe me,

Yours, &c.

Paris, Nov. 30. 1669.

An Extract of a Letter

Written by Dr. Durſton *from Plymouth* Novemb. 28. 1669. *giving an Account, why the late Big-breaſted Woman was not open'd after her Death.*

SIR, IT was deſign'd to have examin'd the *Viſcera* of *Eliz. Travers*, but her Aunt, who was with her and took care of her, fell into ſuch a paſſion upon the propoſal of opening her, that ſhe ſeem'd to be for the time beſides her ſelf; and I could not by any art get her out of the Chamber, where the Corps was laid out, till ſhe ſaw her nail'd up in her Coffin. I never ſaw ſuch fondneſs ſhewn to a dead Body; and I was ſufficiently troubled to be thus diſappointed by a fond extravagant Woman: But yet I believe, if I had examin'd the Entralls, I ſhould have ſeen little or nothing extraordinary. For, to the laſt, I could perceive no ill ſmell from her Breath, or ſtreightneſs upon the Cheſt, or painfulneſs in her Breathing; and the *Egeſta per urinam*, &c. were well enough. If any thing worth Obſervation do further occurr in theſe parts, I ſhall upon every opportunity communicate it to you, who am, *&c.*

An Appendix

To the Diſcourſe concerning the Salt-work, publiſht in Numb. 53. *communicated by the ſame Doctor* Jackſon, *in a Letter of* Novemb. 20. 1669.

Qu. 1. WHether *thoſe Salt-ſprings do yield leſs water and more of the Salt, in great Droughts, than in wet ſeaſons? Ans.* Our Springs do not ſenſibly alter in their decreaſe or increaſe in either dry or wet ſeaſons; for, being plentiful Springs, we have alwayes the Pitt full: Only this is obſerv'd by the *Briners*, that they make more Salt with the ſame quantity of Brine